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tremes, in point of time, there is an almost overwhelming abundance and diversity of material. It is this material which Dr. Bogardus, who is head of the department of Sociology at the University of Southern California, attempts to cover and to classify in the twenty-eight chapters which comprise this volume. Among the chapter titles are the following: "The Social Thought of Ancient Civilizations," "Plato and Grecian Social Thought," "Roman Social Thought," "Social Thought in the Middle Ages," "Anthropologic Sociology," "Eugenic Sociology," "Psycho-Sociologic Thought" and "The Rise of Educational Sociology." There are separate chapters on some of the leading modern writers such as Malthus, Comte, Marx, Buckle, Spencer and Ward.

"Sound social thought needs to be democratized, that is, to be made available for all people." These words indicate the nature and purpose of this volume. It aims to present in a popular, readable form to a world of students the best in the world's social thought. Judged by this purpose, it is an interesting effort in a commendable direction.

JAMES H. S. BOSSARD.

AMERICAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION, Proceedings of the Session of the. Telegraph and Telephone Section. Held at The Jefferson, Richmond, Va., March 21, 22, and 23, 1922.

NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE, under the direction of *Edward N. Clopper*, Ph. D. *Rural Child Welfare*. Pp. 355. Price, \$3.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1922.

Twenty years ago, approximately, the growing city and the industrial system captured the imagination of the American people. Since then, the problems which they have created have monopolized our attention and our best effort. The problem of the rural child, like other problems of rural life, has been neglected in favor of its urban complement. City people are prone to romance about the sunshine and pure air and singing birds of country

life, not realizing the tremendous burdens and handicaps of rural childhood in numerous communities where the aggressive element has left the farms for the city, or where the tide of civilization has been slow to penetrate.

Along comes this timely volume to remind us, with all the force of a new discovery, that home life may be as inadequate, depressive and unwholesome in the open stretches as in the congested city; that agricultural child labor is the commonest, even if the least known, form of child labor; that, in spite of all the natural facilities in country life, the rural community is a playless and recreationless community; that juvenile dependency, illiteracy, truancy and delinquency are as rife in the country as in the city, and more dangerous because so largely unattended.

This book is distinctly a laboratory instead of an armchair product. The facts presented are based upon a study of conditions in West Virginia, conducted by the National Child Labor Committee. Eleven communities in as many different counties, including a variety of types and conditions of rural life that is probably representative of rural conditions all over the country, were studied by field workers who, instead of spending a week or two in a superficial survey, as has too often been the "custom of our caste," lived a sufficiently long time with their facts to fathom them. The material is classified and analyzed under seven chapter-headings which, together with an introductory chapter on the "Rights of Childhood" by Edward N. Clopper, under whose direction the study was made, comprise the volume.

To scientific students, the study stands out as a model in its combination of painstaking inquiry, of exact thoroughness, of manifest fairness and of deep sympathy. To well-intentioned people who are anxious to promote child welfare, but who are ignorant of the facts and of their proper determination, it is a revelation. Those familiar with the facts, but who have kept profoundly silent or Levite-like have passed by on the other side, this plain, truthful, unexaggerated story ought to galvanize into constructive action.

JAMES H. S. BOSSARD.